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Jurors deliberating Zimmerman case



George Zimmerman

MIAMI (AFP) - Jurors began their deliberations Friday in the racially-charged trial of a US neighborhood watch volunteer accused of murdering unarmed black teenager Trayvon Martin.

Jurors retired after defense and prosecution attorneys wrapped up closing arguments in a final bid to sway the six-woman panel, which must reach a unanimous verdict to convict.

Two hours later, the jurors returned to the courtroom to ask the judge and lawyers to provide a list of the evidence in the case.

The jury is to resume deliberations on Saturday after adjourning on Friday.

Earlier Judge Debra Nelson reminded jurors that the onus was on prosecutors to prove their case against 29-year-old George Zimmerman.

"It is not necessary for George Zimmerman to disprove anything. Nor is George Zimmerman required to prove his innocence," she said.

"It is up to the state to prove George Zimmerman's guilt by evidence."

Nelson also reminded jurors that Florida law allows residents to use lethal force to defend themselves, under the state's controversial "Stand Your Ground" law.

"The killing of a human being is justifiable and lawful if necessarily done while resisting an attempt to murder or commit a felony upon George Zimmerman, or to commit a felony in any dwelling house in which George Zimmerman was at the time of the attempted killing," Nelson said.

Zimmerman's lawyer wrapped up his case by telling jurors that his client feared he was going to die when he shot Martin, 17.

Continued on pg 6

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Moody's and Fitch maintain ratings of Aruba Airport to BAA2 and BBB

Very positive rating reports on the Aruba Airport Authority

ORANJESTAD - The Credit Rating Company Moody's announced that it has maintained the rating of Aruba Airport Authority N.V. (AAA) at Baa2 while Fitch Ratings also affirmed the 'BBB' rating on Aruba Airport Authority N.V.'s USD17.2 million airport revenue bonds due in 2015. The Rating Outlook is Stable.

The Moody's Baa2 rating reflects a BCA of 9 (equivalent to Baa2) in relation to the Government of Aruba given the strong ownership linkage and very high default dependence. The rating also considers the fact that AAA is the only airport in Aruba, and it plays a critical role in the island's predominantly tourism-based economy. Enplanement levels have increased annually since 2009 and were minimally impacted by the global economic re-

cession.

Additional credit strength comes from the relatively stable economy and institutional framework in Aruba, which is governed as an autonomous member of the Netherlands (rated Aaa). Also factored in the BCA are the favorable legal covenants and investor protections in the Indenture. These include an additional debt covenant equal to 1.35 times debt service coverage, a maximum annual debt service reserve fund for each series, and a dividend lock-up equal to 1.50 times debt service. (For Moody's complete report please refer to www.moodys.com)

According to Fitch Queen Beatrix International Airport's favorable financial performance is primarily sustained by its continuous passenger traffic growth along with a sound imple-

mentation of cost controls. More recently, the airport's total revenues during the first quarter of 2013 (1Q13) grew 6.2% when compared to the same period in 2012. Total expenses during 1Q13 grew 1.6% allowing for an operational margin 11.7% higher than in the same quarter of 2012. Enplanement passengers grew at a compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) of 1.8% within the latest five-year period. Demand at the airport, within the last 10 years, continues to be stable and resilient to global economic fluctuations, reflecting the island as a consolidated tourist destination. Fitch expects stable traffic performance to continue during the life of the notes, in line with historical patterns, and partially mitigating volume risk.

Continued on pg 2

Aruba's Little League Champs off to compete at Caribbean Little League Championships



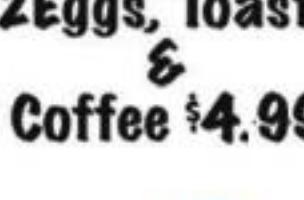
Aruba's Little League champion team from the island's Center Little League division, departed yesterday morning for Bonaire to compete in the Caribbean Little League Championships. (see story on pg 3)

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Budweiser presents renowned Bachata singer Victor Manuel to Aruba

Playa Liquor, proud representative of the prestigious 'King of all Beers', Budweiser are presenting this week the famous Bachata artists Victor Manuel. Victor Manuel will be giving some tremendous presentations at different spots on the island.

He started off his presentations **July 10th** at Mojitos

Discotek, July 12th at Makumba Discotek. Today he will be at Iriam Bar and on Sunday, **July 14th** at New Town Diskotek (Ex-Samba Caramba).

Victor Manual de la Rosa was born in The Dominican Republic and from little started singing in the choir of his church. By 12, he was al-

ready part of the band 'Compostela' singing bachatas.

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Very positive rating reports on the Aruba Airport Authority...

Continued from pg 1



The airport's operating and financial performance has been in line with Fitch's expectations and is expected to continue providing adequate financial flexibility during the life of the notes. Part of the restricted cash balances are likely to be employed to cope with CIP's projected budget and without deteriorating the financial profile. Stability to the cost structure is also anticipated to continue on a go-forward basis, reflecting the operator's experience and familiarity with the asset.

In constructing Fitch's base and rating cases, Fitch assumes the exchange rate, and PFC to remain

constant throughout the life of the notes. Fitch's base case considered enplanements and concessions revenues to

reach a CAGR of 0.3% and 1.6%, respectively, until 2015. Additionally,

Fitch employs a constant escalation of 5% (real terms) over annual operating expenses, and a profit tax annual increase of 2% until final amortization. Under the base case scenario, the minimum natural DSCR is calculated at 1.78x, with an average of 1.81x.

Fitch's Rating Case, considered enplanements and concessions revenues to reach a CAGR of -2.2%, and 0.9%, respectively, until 2015. Fitch also estimates a constant escalation of 7% (real terms) over annual operating expenses, and a profit tax annual increase of 3% until final amortization. Under the rating case, the projected minimum natural DSCR is estimated at 1.46x, with an average of 1.55x.

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Paseo Herencia hosts a rousing send off for Aruba's Little League champs

Aruba's Little League champion team from the island's Center Little League division, departed yesterday morning for Bonaire to compete in the Caribbean Little League Championships. Youth baseball is BIG on Aruba, with more than 1200 young players in the Little, Junior and Senior Divisions of Little League, while hundreds of parents volunteer as coaches and peripheral services to encourage their young athletes.

Paseo Herencia was proud to host a rousing send off for the team of young players, demonstrating the support they have from officials and



Words of pride and encouragement from Parliamentarian Donny Rasmijn
Elwin Rincones and Trainer Neguel Chacin.

The team consists of Myron Cathalina, Mariano Decena, Jerrick Francees, Guyon Cannister, Valentino Dirksz, Joshua Baredodregt, Ronald Werelman, Raibently Mercalina, Brandon Rincones, Junior Maduro, Cal Maduro, Amir Lacle, Ardwin Tromp, Bryan Ali Sahid, Denvert Werelman and Jeremy Kelly.

Present to wish them well was the head of Aruba Little League, Rudy Donata. He was joined by Carlos Eckmeyer, representing their principal sponsor, RBC Royal (Aruba) Bank and Parliamentarian Donny Rasmijn in expressing their great pride in how the athletes persevered to win the island champion title and is certain they will make all islanders proud while representing Aruba in Bonaire.

Two years ago, Aruba's Little League team won the regional title to go on to the World Series; it was the first time since 1976. Manager Francees expressed great confidence in this team to take the title again.

After being awarded gift bags from the Totto franchise on Aruba, the team was blessed by Pastor Frank Daal, who prayed they are kept safe from injury and have a wonderful experience, whatever the result.

Day-by-day results and box scores of the games can be followed on the official Little League website: <http://www.littleleague.org/worldseries/series/lbb/qualify/caribbean.htm>

By Rosalie Klein



Carlos Eckmeyer represents sponsors RBC Bank

the community. Each athlete was given a special introduction to the enthusiastic audience to further encourage and inspire them in the coming competitions. Benjamin Francees of Benjamin Security is a major sponsor and manager of this year's team.



Pastor Frank Daal blesses the team

The games will be conducted from July 13 - 21. Winners of the Caribbean Championship titles will go on to represent the region at the Little League World Series in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, August 15-25.

Though Little League teams compete in a wide range of age groups, it is the 11-12 year old athletes that will compete. Accompanying the team with Benjamin will be Coaches Omar Sahid and

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Paseo Herencia, Totto Aruba and 3 local radio stations collaborate with FPNC for kids in need



FPNC, radio DJs, Paseo crew and Totto owner

A new school year is approaching and thousands of young children will need proper uniforms that are required by almost all island schools. These includes most often standardized shorts, skirts or long pants and polo shirts embroidered with the school logo. Most parents with means are accustomed to this and prepared for the expense. Aruba's Foundation Pa Nos Comunidad, (FPNC) however, recognizes and reminds the more fortunate that this will be a serious strain on the finances of several families who can't spare the funds. Many of them are earning minimum wage (sometimes

less) and already rely on the FPNC Food Bank to help them feed their families on a budget stretched way too thin.

For this reason, Paseo Herencia Shopping Mall is collaborating with Totto shop owner Juan Camilo Vásquez and three island radio stations in conducting a summer-long campaign to collect used, outgrown school uniforms and any other articles of clothing that might assist these less fortunate families.

During a press conference conducted at the Starbucks coffee shop located within the mall, Paseo Marketing Managers and Events Coordinator Candy Rasmijn announced

the charity drive. The mall will provide a headquarters in a newly renovated store front, the former location of the parking cashier's office. FPNC will be set up to accept donations of outside uniforms, shorts, pants and skirts that parents may have left from the former school year, but no longer fit their growing children. When ordering their school uniforms, they are also welcome to order an extra two or three to donate new to the cause. This will be open over the entire summer break to accept donations.

Totto retail stores, which offer a diverse selection of adorable school bags and



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other accessories, invite those that have old bags from their shop to donate them back to receive an attractive 15% discount on a featured item, an innovative backpack/computer bag, ideal for older students.

The donated bags will be cleaned up and made usable again, to be donated by Totto to the FPNC school drive. Used bags will be accepted at the FPNC outlet set up at Paseo Herencia Mall, or any of the Totto outlets on Aruba, which are in Oranjestad and San Nicolas, at Palm Beach Plaza, and the new Totto Tu at Paseo Herencia.

A 24-hour fundraising radiothon will begin at midnight on August 2nd, and continue through midnight, August 3, to raise funds and received goods for the drive. Radio stations Caliente FM, Cool FM and Latin station La Mania, will all be broadcasting live, with interviews with those coming to donate and updates on their progress.

FPNC Director Indra Stamper thanked all three stations, Paseo Herencia, and Totto for this collaborative effort to help provided needed school uniforms for island children whose parents have not the means to provide the required logo shirts. All items of clothing are welcome, but these in particular are a problem. Any donation is welcome, and she reminds parents with growing children, do not throw out those old uniform shirts once they no longer fit, there is someone who can make good use of them.

For more information and to contact the foundation, visit their Facebook page.

By Rosalie Klein



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THE MORNING NEWS apologizes for incorrectly identifying Mr. Ronny Alders of the Aruba National Library as Assistant Director of the institution. Mr. Alders holds the position as **Coordinator of the Green Education Symposium of the National Library of Aruba**, but is not the assistant director of the BNA. The error was purely a misunderstanding on our part, and does not reflect any claims by Mr. Alders.

Crossing Ooststraat/Nieuwstraat closed this weekend!



ORANJESTAD - The Department of Public Works - DOW - informs all motorists that the crossing Ooststraat/Nieuwstraat is closed for all traffic. The closure is to fix the crossing which is part of the renovation work being done in the main street.

The crossing is closed from Friday, 8:00 p.m. until Sunday, 11:00 p.m.

There are traffic signs and barricades to advise all motorists. DOW makes an appeal to all motorists to NOT use abovementioned road while it is closed.

DOW asks everyone for their understanding and apologizes for any inconvenience this may cause.

Did a 'dead' man win election in Mexico town?

OAXACA (AFP) - A man who was allegedly certified as dead almost three years ago has won a race for mayor in the southern state of Oaxaca.

Leninguer Raymundo Carballido Morales won the election in the small town of San Agustin Amatengo by just 11 votes last Sunday as the candidate of a coalition of conservative and leftist parties.

But now prosecutors are investigating whether Carballido Morales faked his own death

in 2010 in order to escape arrest in connection with the gang rape of a woman in 2004.

A living and breathing Carballido Morales actually campaigned in the election, appearing in public events and giving interviews to reporters.

But two days before the vote, the local daily Tiempo de Oaxaca reported that the candidate's lawyer had delivered a forged death certificate to authorities in 2010.

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Sam Mendes to direct next James Bond film, out in 2015

LONDON (AFP) - The next James Bond film will be released in late 2015, producers announced Thursday, with Daniel Craig reprising his role as the suave British spy and Sam Mendes returning as director after dramatically reversing his decision to quit.

A few teasing details of the unnamed 24th official Bond adventure were announced in a picture posted on Agent 007's official Twitter feed, emblazoned with the words "BOND 24" in large letters.

"Daniel Craig is 007, Sam Mendes back as director," the tweet said, adding that the film would be released in Britain on October 23, 2015, and in the United States two weeks later.

The screenplay will be written by John Logan, who penned the last Bond film "Skyfall", as well as other hit movies including "Gladiator" and "The Last Samurai".

Mendes, 47, directed "Skyfall", which became Britain's highest-grossing film ever and took more than \$1 billion at box offices worldwide when it was released in 2012.

The Oscar-winning British director said in March that he had turned down the chance to direct the next Bond film in order to concentrate on his theatre work, but confirmed on Thursday that he had changed his mind.

"I am very pleased that by giving me the time I need to honour all my theatre commitments, the producers have made it possible for me to direct Bond 24," he said in a statement published on the official Bond website.

"I very much look forward to taking up the reins again, and to working with Daniel Craig (and producers) Michael G. Wilson and Barbara Broccoli for a second time," he added.

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Jurors deliberating Zimmerman case

"He's not guilty of anything but protecting his own life," lead defense attorney Mark O'Mara said.

Zimmerman faces possible life in prison if convicted of second degree murder in the case.

Jurors were told Thursday that they could also consider the lesser charge of manslaughter if they are not convinced he is guilty of murder. A manslaughter conviction, which, unlike murder, involves no premeditation, carries a possible maximum sentence of 30 years in prison.

O'Mara argued that prosecutors had failed to prove that Zimmerman acted with malicious intent when he pulled the trigger and fired a single, fatal shot into Martin's chest.

But the prosecution has argued throughout that Zimmerman had stalked Martin and provoked the fatal February 2012 encounter, which oc-

curred in a gated residential community in the central Florida city of Sanford.

"He profiled him as a criminal. He assumed... that Trayvon Martin was up to no good. And that's what led to his death," prosecutor Bernie de la Rionda told jurors in his closing arguments Thursday.

President Barack Obama also weighed in on the controversy, calling the shooting "a tragedy" and suggesting that -- had he been the father of a boy instead of two daughters -- chances are "he'd look like Trayvon."

Community leaders on Friday called for calm regardless of the eventual verdict.

"If Zimmerman is convicted there should not be inappropriate celebrations, because a young man lost his life, and if he is not convicted we should avoid violence because it will only lead to more tragedies," the Reverend Jesse Jackson said.

At least six dead, many injured in derailment near Paris

BREITIGNY-SUR-ORGE (AFP) - At least six people were killed and many injured on Friday after a speeding train derailed and hit the platform at a station just south of Paris, in France's worst rail accident in 25 years.

Witnesses said the site of the crash resembled "a war zone", with one describing walking over a decapitated body to exit a carriage that had been thrown on its side.

Rescuers were searching late Friday for passengers who may still be trapped inside overturned carriages.

The train, a regional service heading from Paris to the west-central city of Limoges, hurled off the line as it passed at high speed through the station at Breitigny-sur-Orge, about 25 kilometres (15 miles) south of Paris.

The interior ministry said in an updated toll that at least six people had been killed, nine seriously injured and taken to hospital by helicop-

ter and 17 lightly injured.

Interior Minister Manuel Valls had earlier spoken of seven dead and "dozens injured," warning that the death toll was likely to rise.

Some 300 firefighters, 20 paramedic teams and eight helicopters were deployed to the area. All Paris region hospitals were put on alert to deal with the injured.

In total, 192 people were treated by emergency services, officials said.

The head of the SNCF national railway, Guillaume Pepy, told reporters at the scene that six carriages had derailed during the accident. The train's third and fourth carriages derailed first and the others followed, he said.

A clearly emotional Pepy expressed the rail company's "solidarity with the victims and their families".

"Rail catastrophes are something that upset everyone and all of those who are committed to our national rail service," he said.

Kremlin turns back to typewriters to avoid leaks

MOSCOW (AFP) - A Russian state service in charge of safeguarding Kremlin communications is looking to purchase an array of old-fashioned typewriters to prevent leaks from computer hardware, sources said this past week.

The throwback to the paper-strewn days of Soviet bureaucracy has reportedly been prompted by the publication of secret documents by anti-secrecy website WikiLeaks and the revelations leaked by former US intelligence contractor Edward Snowden.

The Federal Guard Service, which is also in charge of protecting President Vladimir Putin, is looking to spend just over 486,000 rubles (\$14,800) to buy a number of electric typewriters, according to the site of state procurement agency, zakupki.gov.ru.

"This purchase has been planned for more than a year now," a source at the service, known by its Russian acronym FSO, told AFP on Thursday.

The notice on the site was posted last week. A spokeswoman for the service declined comment.

Pro-Kremlin newspaper Izvestia said the state service was looking to purchase 20 typewriters because using computers to prepare top-secret documents may no longer be safe.

"After scandals with the distribution of secret documents by WikiLeaks, the exposés by Edward Snowden, reports about Dmitry Medvedev being listened in on during his visit to the G20 summit in London, it has been decided to expand the practice of creating paper documents," the newspaper quoted a FSO source as saying.

Unlike printers, every typewriter has its own individual pattern of type so it is possible to link every document to a machine used to type it, Izvestia said.

Documents leaked by Snowden appeared to show that Britain spied on foreign delegates including then president Dmitry Medvedev at the 2009 London G20 meetings, said British newspaper The Guardian last month.

Russia was outraged by the revelations but said it had the means to protect itself.



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Obama calls Putin over Snowden affair

WASHINGTON (AFP) - President Barack Obama spoke to Russian President Vladimir Putin Friday, after the White House warned Moscow not to give fugitive leaker Edward Snowden a "propaganda platform" by granting him asylum.

The call came after Snowden said he wanted to claim temporary refuge in Russia, where he has been staying in an airport transfer lounge, until he could figure out how to reach permanent asylum in South America.

The Obama-Putin call had been scheduled for several days. There were no immediate details on its content, but the White House earlier said it would include discussion of Snowden and other issues.

Obama is due to travel to Moscow in September for a summit with Putin, with whom he has tricky relations, before heading onto the G20 summit in St Petersburg.

Top US officials warned Moscow that offering such status to Snowden would undercut its statements that it did not want the affair to harm relations with Washington.

White House spokesman Jay Carney also renewed a US call on Russia to expel Snowden so that he could be returned to American soil to face trial for leaking US national security secrets.

Snowden earlier told activists he wanted to claim asylum in Russia until he can travel on to Latin America, in his first encounter with the outside world since becoming marooned at Moscow airport three weeks ago.

He made his announcement after a meeting with human rights groups in Moscow's Sheremetyevo air-

port, which particularly irked the White House.

"We would urge the Russian government to afford human rights organizations the ability to do their work in Russia throughout Russia, not just at the Moscow transit lounge," Carney said.

State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki meanwhile expressed disappointment that Russian authorities facilitated Snowden's meeting with rights campaigners.

She also denied that Washington had used the meeting to pass a message to Snowden, who caused a furore by leaking details of a National Security Agency telephone and Internet spying operations to two newspapers.

"At no point did this official or any official from the U.S. government ask anyone to convey a message to Mr. Snowden," Psaki said.

South Americans affirm asylum right in US leak case: Maduro

South American leaders agreed to a statement here Friday reaffirming the fundamental right of asylum in connection with alleged US electronic espionage in the region, Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro said.

"A doctrinal statement has been ratified to guarantee the right of asylum as a fundamental right," he said at a summit of the South American bloc Mercosur.

Maduro also called for measures to boost regional cyber-security following reports that Washington has been engaging in massive electronic spying in several Latin American countries, based on documents leaked by former US intelligence contractor Edward Snowden.

International News

US Homeland Security chief resigns



WASHINGTON (AFP) - US Homeland Security chief Janet Napolitano said Friday she was resigning to take up a job in academia, opening up a surprise vacancy in President Barack Obama's cabinet.

Napolitano, a former governor of Arizona, said she was being nominated as the president of the University of California, and had served as Homeland Security secretary since Obama took office in 2009.

"I thank President Obama for the chance to serve our nation during this important chapter in our history," Napolitano said in a statement.

"I know the Department of Homeland Security will continue to perform its important duties with the honor and focus that the American public expects."

Napolitano leaves at a crucial moment with a bid to reform the US immigration system under discussion in Congress.

The Homeland Security department plays a key role enforcing US border security, as well as protecting the United States from terrorist threats.

Obama said in a statement that Napolitano had met some of the "toughest challenges" facing the United States.

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US gives foreign banks 1 year to join tax evasion push

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The United States on Friday put off until mid-2014 the deadline for foreign banks to agree to supply information on the accounts of US citizens, part of the effort to battle tax evasion.

The US Treasury said that "due to overwhelming interest from countries around the

world," it would extend the deadline for compliance with the US Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) by six months to July 1, 2014.

On that date foreign banks and other financial institutions will have to have agreed to identify and report information on US account holders, or the Treasury will require US

financial institutions to hold back 30 percent of dividend and interest payments due to them.

But the deadline for the first full reporting of the accounts remains 2015, when the foreign banks will have to supply data on accounts held by Americans during the previous year.

The Treasury said it was working with more than 80 countries and jurisdictions to begin exchanging data on the offshore accounts of their respective foreign nationals, amid a global effort to police tax evasion.

"Every additional country we bring on board means we are one step closer to winning

the fight against offshore tax evasion," said Robert Stack, the Treasury's deputy assistant secretary for international tax affairs.

The Treasury said it had signed nine agreements with other governments to facilitate the automatic exchange of information required by FATCA.



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Health & Living

Ireland approves 'life-saving' abortions for first time

DUBLIN (AFP) - Irish lawmakers on Friday overwhelmingly approved abortion for the first time in limited cases where the mother's life is at risk, in a vote that revealed deep divisions in the predominantly Catholic nation.

The change was prompted by the death last year of an Indian woman who had been refused an abortion in an Irish hospital, but more broadly ends years of uncertainty over the legal status of terminations in the country.

Legislators voted through the bill by 127 to 31 against in the early hours after two days of marathon debate in parlia-

ment. It will now go to a vote in the upper house, where the government has a majority.

But in a sign of the rifts that remain on the issue, a junior minister quit her post after voting against the bill and faces exclusion from Prime Minister Enda Kenny's Fine Gael party.

Kenny revealed recently he had received abusive letters written in blood and opponents of the bill have branded him a murderer, while 35,000 abortion opponents marched in Dublin on Saturday.

The Protection of Life During Pregnancy Bill allows for abortion in circumstances where doctors certify there is

a real and substantial risk to the life of the mother, as opposed to a risk to her health.

It also permits a termination when one obstetrician and two psychiatrists unanimously agree that an expectant mother is a suicide risk.

The "suicide clause" in particular has divided society, with some anti-termination lawmakers warning that it will lead to a more liberal abortion regime in Ireland.

The bill follows a 2010 European Court of Human Rights ruling that found Ireland failed to implement properly the constitutional right to abortion where a woman's life is at risk.

Under a 1992 Supreme Court ruling, women in Ireland are legally entitled to an abortion if it is needed to save a mother's life -- but six successive governments have failed to introduce legislation to reflect this.

The global attention following the death of 31-year-old Indian woman Savita Halappanavar in a Galway hospital in October prompted Kenny's government to act.

New figures from the health ministry in Britain released on Thursday show 3,982 women, including 124 under the age of 18, travelled from Ireland to England or Wales for a termination in 2012.

Between 1980 and 2012, more than 150,000 women travelled from Ireland to England and Wales for a termination, according to the figures.

Predominantly Catholic Malta is now the only country in Europe to maintain a total ban on abortion.

Cyprus and Poland have strict laws which only allow termination when there is a danger to the mother or baby, and in cases where the pregnancy resulted from rape or incest.

UAE announces first case of MERS-virus infection



ABU DHABI (AFP) - Health authorities in the UAE have announced that an 82-year-old man has been diagnosed with the MERS coronavirus infection, the first case to be recorded in the Gulf state.

The Emirati citizen who contracted the SARS-like virus suffers from cancer and is being treated in hospital in the capital, Abu Dhabi health authority said in a statement carried by WAM state news agency late Thursday.

The authority said that this was the first case to be diagnosed in the United Arab Emirates.

In May, France said a 65-year-old man was in hospital after being diagnosed with the coronavirus after a holiday in Dubai. But the UAE health ministry said at the time no cases of the virus had been recorded in the country.

Experts are struggling to understand MERS, or Middle

East Respiratory Syndrome, which has mostly affected neighbouring Saudi Arabia where 65 cases have been detected, including 38 fatalities.

The World Health Organisation announced last week that it had convened emergency talks on the MERS virus.

Concerns have been expressed about the potential impact of October's hajj pilgrimage, when millions of Muslims from around the globe head to and from Saudi Arabia.

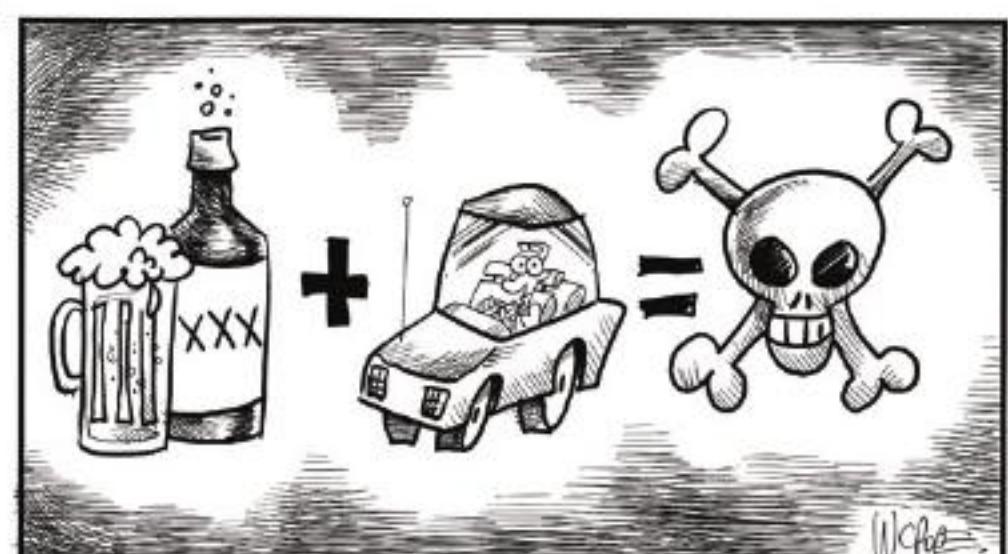
The WHO has not recommended any MERS-related travel restrictions, but says countries should monitor unusual respiratory infection patterns.

Like SARS, MERS appears to cause a lung infection, with patients suffering from fever, coughing and breathing difficulties. But it differs in that it also causes rapid kidney failure.

FDA to set new limits on arsenic in apple juice



-- Apple juice must meet new arsenic standards proposed by the Food and Drug Administration, the agency said Friday. Arsenic is a semi-metal that's naturally found in soil and minerals. It can get into air, water and the ground from wind-blown dust and runoff. Prolonged exposure to arsenic has been linked to risk for cancer and skin cancer, but also other health issues including heart disease, diabetes and neurological effects. The new standards set an "action level" of 10 parts per billion inorganic arsenic found in apple juice. The announcement comes more than a year after concern over the naturally-occurring carcinogen found in apple juice and other products gained national attention following tests conducted on "The Dr. Oz Show." Experts have said people craving a glass of apple juice should just grab an apple instead, because drinking juice can deliver calories quickly.





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More than 200 dead or missing in China rain, landslides



BEIJING (AFP) - Torrential rain and landslides in China have left more than 200 people dead or missing in recent days, state media and the government said as the country braced Friday for an approaching typhoon.

Landslides and floods in Sichuan province in the southwest had killed 31 people by Thursday, according to data from the ministry of civil affairs, with 166 more missing. More than two million people had been affected in the region, it added.

Another 13 people had died, with four missing, since Sunday in Yan'an in the northwest, where local authorities warned of a high risk of flooding and landslides, the state-run Xinhua news agency said.

Official figures also showed deaths in several other parts of the country, from the central provinces of Henan and Hubei to the northern region of Ningxia.

The government raised the flood alert status on the Yangtze river, warning of potential downpours and windstorms in the waterway's middle and lower reaches Saturday as Typhoon Soulik moves towards the Chinese coast, reported news portal people.com.cn.

President Xi Jinping has called on the authorities to "spare no efforts" in searching for people left missing in the

landslides, according to a statement sent by the General Office of the Communist Party of China to Xinhua.

Mexico volcano ash disrupts US flights



PUEBLA (AFP) - A handful of US flights were canceled at two Mexican airports on Friday after ash from a nearby volcano fell in central Mexico, authorities said.

Alaska Airlines voluntarily canceled a flight from Los Angeles to Mexico City's international airport and the later trip back to California, airport spokesman Jorge Gomez told AFP. The rest of the airport, however, was operating normally.

The small airport of the central city of Puebla, located just 25 kilometers (15 miles) from the Popocatepetl volcano, decided to suspend its operations due to the volcanic activity.

This forced the cancellation

Floods top 2013 world disaster bill so far: Munich Re

BERLIN (AFP) - Floods that caused billions of dollars (euros) in losses were the world's most expensive natural disasters so far this year, with central Europe being hit hardest, reinsurers Munich Re said.

Altogether, natural catastrophes -- also including earthquakes, tornados and heat waves -- caused \$45 billion (35 billion euros) in losses in the first half of 2013, well below the 10-year average of \$85 billion.

Insured losses worldwide totalled about \$13 billion, said Munich Re.

Inland flooding that affected parts of Europe, Asia, Canada and Australia caused about 47 percent of overall global losses and 45 percent of insured losses, said the leading reinsurance company based in Munich, Germany.

The deadliest disaster out of 460 recorded "natural hazard events" worldwide was a series of flash floods in northern India and Nepal that killed more than 1,000 people in June after early and exceptionally heavy monsoon rains.

By far the most expensive natural disaster was the river flooding that hit southern and eastern Germany and neighbouring countries in May and June, causing more than \$16 billion in damage, most of it in Germany.

In some places, 400 litres of rain per square metre fell within a few days. With the ground already saturated from the雨iest spring in half a century, this led to rapid swelling of the Danube and Elbe river systems.

Peter Hoeppel, head of Munich Re's Geo Risks Research unit, said in a statement that "it is evident that days with weather conditions that lead to such flooding are becoming more frequent".

As weather systems tend to remain stationary for longer, he said there was a higher chance for heavy and long-lasting rains, and for summer heatwaves and droughts.

"Debate in climate research is currently focusing on what the causes of such changes in weather patterns could be and what role climate change might play in this," he said. "But it is naturally not possible to explain single events on this basis."

The second most expensive disaster was a series of severe tornados that hit the United States in May, especially a maximum-strength tornado that devastated the Oklahoma City suburb of Moore.

The tornado, which killed 26 people, left more than 270 injured and in Moore alone completely destroyed more than 1,000 buildings, caused an overall economic loss of more than three billion dollars, about half of it insured.

"The central states of the USA have the highest tornado risk in the world," said Hoeppel. "Altogether, however, the US tornado season has been below average so far: by the end of June, 625 tornados had occurred, compared with the longer-term average of 1,075."

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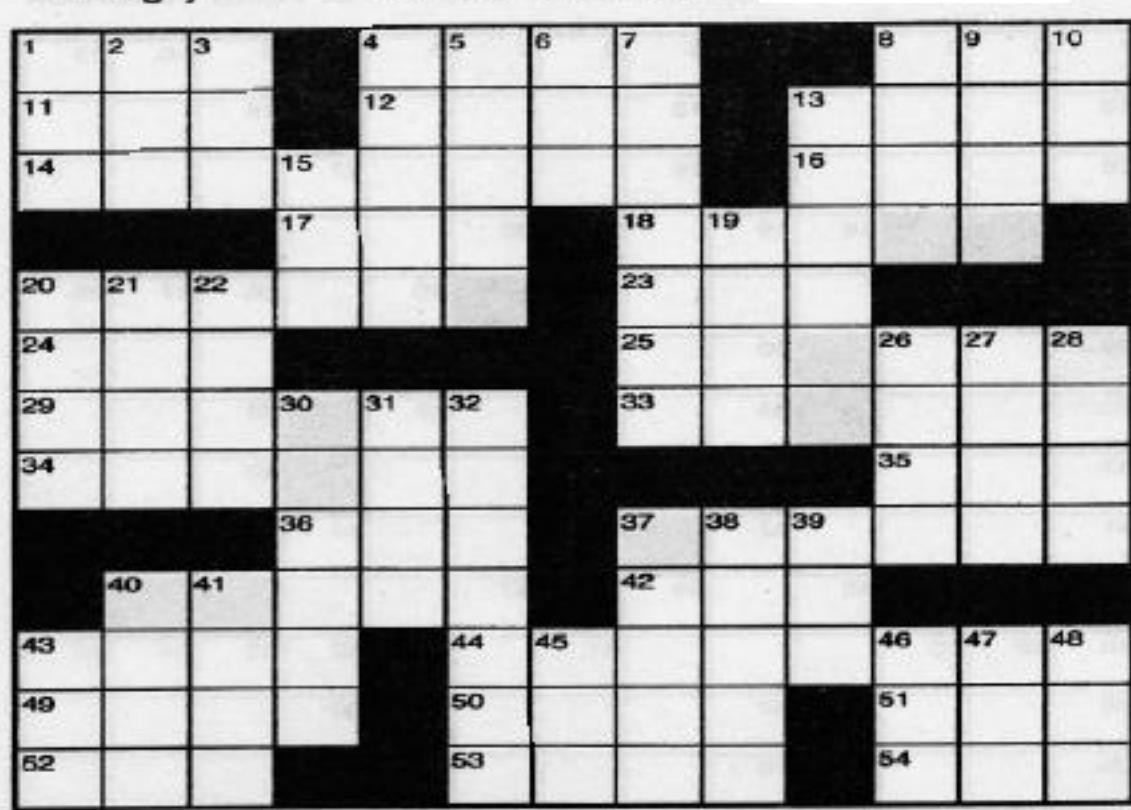


CROSSWORD

CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- Took nourishment
 - Vegetable fuel
 - Strive
 - Suffix for a doctrine
 - Spaghetti sauce brand
 - Neaten
 - Renovator
 - Orchestra instrument
 - Rustic stopover
 - Females' opposites
 - Window curtains
 - Single unit
 - Feel sick
 - Deep blue
 - Hangman's knots
 - Not so tight
 - Harmonize
 - Co. abbr.
 - Roman 54
 - Party with piñatas
 - Actor Cornel
 - Verb ending
 - Yard
 - Traitor
 - Pottery tool
 - Impersonator
 - Coolidge's

- DOWN**
- Ventilate
 - Mao ___-tung
 - "Oz" aunt and others
 - Disposed (to)
 - Gains
 - Birthday number
 - Confusion
 - General feeling, slangily
 - nickname
 - You"
 - Endure
 - Lisper's problem letter
 - Wynter
 - Many (2 wds.)
 - Spanish city
 - Helpful hint
 - Domini
 - Actress
 - Wynter
 - Outbreak
 - Many (2 wds.)
 - Wife of Osiris
 - Mannerly man
 - Killer whale
 - Sulky
 - Author
 - Bagnold
 - At least three
 - Penalties
 - Inactive
 - Poached item



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7	4	6									
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SOLUTION

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52			53						54		

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

FINANCE**Fitch downgrades France from top rating**

PARIS (AFP) - Ratings agency Fitch downgraded France from the top AAA credit rating on Friday, citing a heavier government debt load and poor prospects for growth.

In slashing France's rating to 'AA+', Fitch became the last of the big three credit raters to knock France off the top perch. Last year Standard & Poor's and Moody's already downgraded France from the AAA club.

Fitch, which is part French owned, had warned in its previous appraisal that France had reached the very limit of being able to hold on to its top grade grail.

But with Fitch now expecting public debt to peak next year at 96 percent of gross domestic product, the agency said it had no choice but to lower the mark, though with a stable outlook.

France's debt ratio, the

agency added, was "significantly higher" than the AAA median of 49 percent.

Since Socialist Francois Hollande became president in 2012, his government has raised taxes and implemented targeted reforms and spending cuts to try to whittle down the country's huge debt load.

But with the eurozone crisis still alive, and the currency bloc still mired in recession, the measures have proven ineffective and unemployment soared to a 15-year high of 10.9 percent in May.

Fitch forecasts that the French economy will contract by 0.3 percent in 2013 and then return to slight growth of 0.7 percent in 2014.

French Finance Minister Pierre Moscovici brushed off the downgrade Friday maintaining that "French debt is among the safest and most liquid in the eurozone".

US-EU trade talks make headway in first week

WASHINGTON (AFP) - US and European Union trade negotiators claimed progress Friday as they closed out the first week of ambitious talks to create a huge transatlantic free-trade zone.

Both sides agreed on an accelerated timeline, aiming for a pact before a new European Commission takes office in November 2014.

The main goal is to agree on removing bureaucratic, regulatory and protectionist barriers to more open trade and investment to create what would be the world's largest free-trade area, involving 820 million people.

Key focuses of the talks ahead include agricultural trade, cross-border investment,

intellectual property rights and regulatory harmonization.

Both sides hope that by bringing down restrictions on trade and investment -- most of which involve non-tariff barriers rather than trade tariffs, which are already low -- will help generate jobs and boost economic growth.

The areas of divergence could potentially involve red-line issues the US and Europe set out before the talks began: US banking regulations, and France's protections for its film and television industry.

More broadly, Europe will raise the widespread preferences that US states, cities and the federal government give to local contractors and suppliers, including in the lucrative defense sector.

And Washington will push Europe to open up to US biotechnology products like genetically modified foods, which many European consumers consider dangerous.

The week was marked by an entire day devoted to discussions with US industry representatives worried and hopeful about the negotiations, and a briefing for US legislators also concerned on how a treaty would impact their constituents. The next round of talks was scheduled for the week of October 7, in Brussels.

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- » A RE-BUY FOR \$10.00 IS PERMITTED DURING A ROUND, UP TO HAND #15 «
- » THERE WILL BE NO RE-BUY DURING THE FINAL ROUND «
- » ALL FINALIST WILL BEGIN WITH \$2.000.00 IN NON-NEGOTIABLES CHIPS «
- » TOP 6 PLAYERS WILL ADVANCE TO THE FINAL ROUND «

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Caribbean Trade Mission To China Planned

NEW YORK: Caribbean governments and top private sector executives in the tourism and investment sectors are being urged to participate in a 10-day trade mission to four top cities in China, set for this September 14th-23rd.

The trip comes on the heels of the June 5th Avalon Invest Caribbean Now Forum in New York City and is being planned by Peter Zhang and Li Li of the Chinese American Business Development Center, in collaboration with Hard Beat Communications' CMO, Felicia Persaud.

CABC has been leading trade missions for U.S. companies to China for the past 10 years while Hard Beat's Invest Caribbean Now forum is in its third year.

The planned trip to Beijing, Shannxi, Zhejiang and Guangdong comes on the heels of Chinese President's Xi

Jinping first visit to the Caribbean island of Trinidad on May 31st and his pledge of more than \$3 billion in loans to 10 Caribbean nations and Costa Rica on June 2nd.

The 2013 Caribbean/China Trade Mission is designed to help Caribbean premiers, ministers of governments, investment agencies and C-level private sector business leaders, meet with top Chinese officials from varied ministries, such as tourism and finance as well as C-level company execs including from the China Import Export Bank, to promote direct in country investment opportunities and company products and services; establish strategic connections, strengthen existing relations, explore opportunities for joint ventures, source potential suppliers and extend friendships and create relationships for return visits to the Caribbean region.

The Mission will provide Caribbean governments and business leaders' new access and close-up insight into the dynamic Chinese market-including its scale, diversity and potential.

Consequently, the Chinese ministry and private sector executives will be able to enhance and expand business and investments to the Caribbean in their quest to compete effectively in today's global marketplace.

China's 1.3 billion people are rapidly gaining purchasing power. In fact, by 2020, China will surpass the U.S. in middle class consumption. And as quickly as China is emerging as a new market for Caribbean real estate and products like tourism.

For event details and participation in the trip contact Felicia Persaud at felicia@caribpr.com

Eat like a local at The Queen's restaurant at Palm Beach Plaza



Keshi Yena with plaintains, vegetables and pica

-- An elegant décor with a breezy terrace overlooking Palm Beach welcomes guests to Varella Innocencia's very popular restaurant showcasing authentic local cuisine:

The Queen's.

They may have moved from Oranjestad to hipper new digs in Palm Beach Plaza, but the food and prices are strictly native, which is what first won this charming

eateries their loyal clientele. Varella's mom, Luisa, is still in the kitchen, conjuring up the delicious dishes that have been in her family for generations, acknowledged on the menu with items such as "Carni Stoba di Mamachi" - "Grandma's Beef Stew," and their Arawak Steak, along with local delicacies like Keshi Yena - "Full Cheese." This is a tasty, filling stew of

chicken, with other ingredients that are handy that day, all incased in a thick skin of melted Gouda. It was very satisfying and particularly memorable paired with The Queen's garlic bread and very special Pica, a mix of chopped onions and the famous local hot pepper, Madame Janette. Not overly spicy, it lends that perfect bit of tang to this deliciously picturesque meal.

One of the distinctions of Aruban cuisine is incorporating unique indigenous ingredients such as in Wild Cucumber Stew and a particular light fish chowder accompanied by the local specialties pan bati (corn meal pancake) and funchi (the local version of polenta.)

Seafood main courses of Catch of the Day Aruban Style to shrimp and a mixed seafood platter with shrimp, fish, squid, scallops and mussels. Meat dishes such as BBQ Chicken and Ribs or



Varella, Luisa and the next generation of chef

Grilled Tenderloin, each including a choice of 2 side dishes; all quite yummy and bargain-priced to boot!

The Queen's is located on the second level of Palm Beach Plaza, tucked into a cozy corner at the front of the mall. If you have a mind to try the real deal in Aruban food, without a doubt, this is the way to truly eat like a local. They are open from

11:00 AM to 11:00 PM, daily, offering indoor and outdoor dining.

Tel. 5860606 and email: saus.arubancuisine@live.com.

from an extensive menu they also have daily specials made from whatever is in season and Mama Luisa is in the mood to prepare, so don't forget to ask about what isn't on the menu!

Malala defies Taliban to take world stage - on her 16th birthday with her first public speech

UNITED NATIONS (AFP) - Malala Yousafzai took over the United Nations on Friday, nine months after a Taliban gunman put a bullet in her head believing he was ending the Pakistani teenager's campaign for girls' education.

The girl marking her 16th birthday with her first public speech since making a near miraculous recovery from the attack on a school bus near her home in Pakistan's Swat Valley.

Doctors had to place a titanium plate over the hole in her skull and her hearing has been badly affected. But Malala has become a global superstar and a favorite to become the youngest ever Nobel Peace Prize winner.

She has already been named as one of Time magazine's most influential people in 2013 and has reportedly secured a \$3 million contract for a book on her life story.

"This frail young girl who was seriously injured has become such a powerful symbol not just for the girls' right to education, but for the demand that we do something about it immediately," said former British prime minister Gordon Brown, UN envoy on education who organized World Malala Day.



"There will be no compromise with any religious extremist who says girls should not go to school or stop going to school at 10," Brown told CBS News.

The Pakistani teenager told the United Nations that she would not be silenced by terrorists.

"They thought that the bullet would silence us, but they failed," Malala said in a presentation that was quickly hailed for its power.

"The terrorists thought that they would change my aims and stop my ambitions, but nothing changed in my life, except this: weakness, fear and hopelessness died. Strength, power and courage was born," she said in a speech given sev-

a bus in Pakistan's Swat Valley on October 12 last year.

"I want education for the sons and daughters of the Taliban and all the terrorists and extremists. I do not even hate the Taliban who shot me. Even if there is a gun in my hand and he stands in front of me I would not shoot him."

But Malala said "the extremists were and they are afraid of books and pens, the power of education. The power of education silenced them. They are afraid of women."

"Let us pick up our books and pens. They are our most powerful weapons. One child, one teacher, one pen and one book can change the world. Education is the only solution," she said.

Malala is now considered a leading contender for the Nobel Peace Prize. The

Taliban have made it clear however that she remains a target.

UN leader Ban Ki-moon and other top officials also hailed her achievements.

The speech in which Malala invoked the legacy of Martin Luther King, Nelson Mandela and other legendary peace advocates brought quick praise.

British Prime Minister David Cameron said on his Twitter account that Malala had delivered a "powerful message".

The United Nations estimates that 57 million children of primary school age do not get an education -- half of them in countries at conflict like Syria.

"Students and teachers across our globe are intimidated and harassed, injured, raped, and even killed. Schools are burned, bombed, and destroyed," said Diya Nijhowne, director of the Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack. Nijhowne highlighted a horrific attack in northern Nigeria last week.

Gunmen from the Boko Haram Islamist group -- whose name literally means "Western education is a sin" -- broke into a secondary boarding school and killed 41 students and one teacher before setting fire to the building. According to Ban's annual report on children and conflict, 115 schools were attacked last year in Mali, 321 in the occupied Palestinian territory, 167 in Afghanistan and 165 in Yemen.

Pakistan has an estimated five million children out of school and Nigeria 10 million, according to UN estimates.

Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself. ~John Dewey

eral standing ovations.

Malala, who wore a pink headscarf and a shawl that belonged to assassinated Pakistani leader Benazir Bhutto, insisted she did not want "personal revenge" against the Taliban gunman who shot her on

O Condominiums

A small, exclusive boutique condo resort tailored to your taste



Aruba's most successful developers of secure, superior communities for both the permanent and part time resident market, will soon break ground on what they consider their most exclusive project to date. Known for 16 years of unmatched quality and service, the Cas Bon people are proud to unveil their new pet

project: O Condominiums. This is the same company which developed the innovative Gold Coast Villas community in Malmok.

Renowned for reliable construction, developers of O Condominiums consider the boutique community will be the "jewel in the crown" of the nine projects they have successfully completed and

maintain. It is only three stories and twenty luxurious units, of which 14 will be oceanfront, the remainder, ocean view. Sizes range from one bedroom condominiums with a bath and a half to three-bedrooms, each bedroom with its own bath, and an additional guest half/bath. The designs include a family entertainment room that will

be specially fitted with electronic and Internet connections and outlets enabling a state-of-the-art home theater. An important aspect of this singular facility is owners have various options to customize kitchens and fixtures to their particular tastes and standards.

Each apartment sports an extremely spacious 35 square meter covered terrace overlooking the sea. Windows will be double-paned and doors have weather stripping to insure

less cost on air-conditioning, which is integrated into construction. Homeowners will have input into the finishing they prefer in the kitchen and other rooms, to customize your condominium to your taste. Public amenities will include an elegant pool deck, concierge services, lounge area, BBQ station, fitness

room, assigned parking, additional outside storage for bicycles and personal items, and 24-hour security. A quiet, secluded section of Eagle beach is only a few steps from the front door.

O Condominiums officially opened the doors of their sales office onsite at Eagle Beach on December 24. Interested parties can inspect the project in a spacious plot right next to the gourmet Screaming Eagle restaurant. The project is directed towards discerning clients seeking a top quality property on Aruba in an ideal, tranquil, beachfront location. Prospective property owners will find the Cas Bon people enjoy an exceptional reputation on Aruba for excellence and reliability.

Contact the sales office at 297-732-0000/ 297-287-5300 or visit their website: <http://www.o-eaglebeacharuba.com>

Chef's Table, "A hidden gem" close to both Palm and Eagle Beach resorts



--Tucked away down the main Bubali Road, just a mile from the Super Food market is one of Aruba's most charming eateries, known for fine food and exceptional surrounding. Chef's Table has been described by loyal patrons as "a hidden gem," and the attention to quality by the amiable staff will prompt the new visitor to agree.

Delightful decorations of original art set the mood in this converted landmark



country home, divided into several cozy rooms. There is also the choice of dining al fresco in the central gardens, one of the great options of eating out on Aruba.

A gourmet menu includes such unique items as an individual Mediterranean Fish Pot, served with pasta, or a creative sauce for the very fresh catch of the day. Guest particularly rave about their

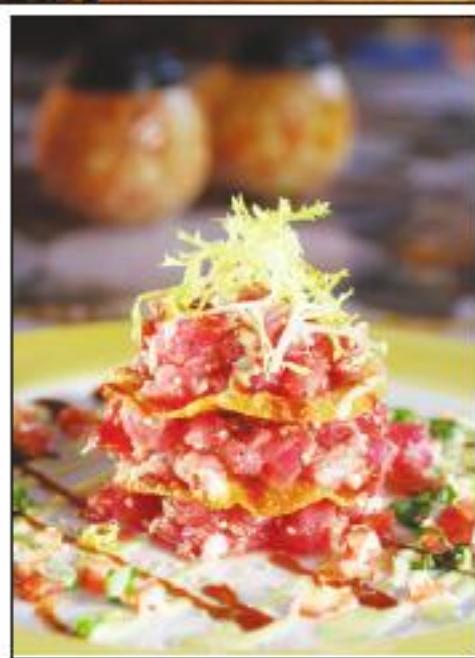


"Surf & Turf," of lobster and filet mignon, uniquely marinated duck breast, and "Black & White Sesame Tuna" served with a Lemon-Zucchini Risotto.

Chef's Table is one of those few restaurants you can count on to be open both Sunday and Monday, as Wednesday is their day off. Don't miss the opportunity to



try this moderately priced, gourmet treat in most pleasant surroundings, and save just a tad of room for their famous "tapas" style desserts, offering a shot glass of sweetness, the perfect end to a delectable meal and most pleasant evening. Visit their website <http://www.chefstablearuba.com/> to meet Chef Martin and the crew.



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NBA: Nets-Celtics deal official

NEW YORK CITY (AFP) - The blockbuster deal struck on NBA draft night between the Boston Celtics and Brooklyn Nets became official on Friday.

The Nets formally welcomed Kevin Garnett, Paul Pierce, Jason Terry and D.J. White to Brooklyn, where they'll play under former star point guard Jason Kidd.

Kidd took over as coach last month in a rare jump straight from the playing ranks to a head coaching job.

"We are excited to welcome Kevin, Paul and Jason to Brooklyn," said Nets general manager Billy King.

"All three players have championship pedigree and possess the veteran qualities that will make us a stronger team."

Garnett and Pierce played key roles in helping the Celtics to the NBA title in 2008, and to the finals in

2010, when they lost to the Los Angeles Lakers.

Garnett holds averages of 19.1 points, 10.5 rebounds, 3.9 assists and 1.5 blocks in 1,323 career games over 18 NBA seasons. He's also played 131 playoff games and has averaged 19.2 points with 11.1 rebounds and 3.5 assists in the postseason.

A 15-time All-Star, Garnett was selected as the NBA MVP during the 2003-04 season with the Minnesota Timberwolves.

Pierce, a 10-time All-Star, played the first 15 seasons of his career with the Celtics and ranks fifth all-time in NBA history in career three-pointers made with 1,823.

The Celtics acquired Gerald Wallace, Kris Humphries, MarShon Brooks, Kris Joseph, Keith Bogans and first-round picks in 2014, 2016 and 2018 in the deal.



LOUDON (AFP) - Clint Bowyer, driver of the #15 5-hour ENERGY Toyota, climbs out of his car after qualifying for the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series Camping World RV Sales 301 at New Hampshire Motor Speedway on Friday in Loudon, New Hampshire.

Football: Khan agrees to buy Fulham

LONDON (AFP) - Pakistan-born billionaire Shahid Khan agreed a deal to buy English Premier League club Fulham on Friday.

Khan, who owns NFL team Jacksonville Jaguars, has been in talks with Fulham owner Mohamed Al Fayed for several days and the pair have struck an agreement that will put the west London team under new ownership for the first time in 16 years.

The transaction, reported to have cost Khan around £150 million, has been approved by the Premier League and the tycoon assumes 100 per cent ownership of the club.

Khan, who was born in Lahore but now has American citizenship, is ranked 179th in the Forbes 400 list of richest Americans with an estimated worth of \$2.5 billion after making his fortune as a car parts manufacturer.

The 62-year-old, the first non-American to own a NFL franchise, already has ties to London, with the Jaguars scheduled to play one regular season game a season at Wembley for the next four years.

In 1967, at the age of 16, Khan left his native Pakistan for the United States and the opportunity to study engineering at the University of Illinois.

Khan struck it rich when he purchased Flex-N-Gate, a car parts supplier, and built it into a global leader that now employs more than 16,000 people at 52 manufacturing and nine product development and engineering facilities throughout Canada, the United States, Mexico, Argentina, Brazil and Spain.

SPORTS

Cycling: 'Cav' recovers to score quarter century of stage wins



SAINST-AMAND (AFP) - British sprint star Mark Cavendish put a testing week behind him to reach a significant Tour de France milestone with victory in Friday's 13th stage from Tours to Saint-Amant-Montrond.

The Omega Pharma Quick-Step rider kept pace with Team Saxo when Alberto Contador and co chose to break away from yellow jersey wearer Chris Froome with 31 kilometres of the stage remaining, and he took full advantage to go on and beat Peter Sagan in the final sprint for the line.

After a week which has seen him lose out to Marcel Kittel in two separate sprint finishes and become embroiled in various controversies, it was a welcome boost to Cavendish's confidence.

But it was more than just that. It was also his second win in the 100th edition of the race, and the 25th Tour de France win of his career at the age of just 28.

In the all-time list of most stage wins on the Tour, he is now level with French great Andre Leducq, who won the race in 1930 and 1932.

Indeed, only France's Bernard Hinault with 28 and Belgian great Eddy Merckx with 34 remain ahead of the Manxman in that list, and it is hard to imagine him not winning many more stages in the years to come.

Cavendish won last week's fifth stage in Marseille but lost out to Kittel in Saint-Malo on Tuesday and again in Tours on Thursday, leading some observers to suggest that he could no longer claim to be the best sprinter in the business.

In addition, he was blamed in some quarters for a crash that brought down Dutchman Tom Veelers towards the end of stage 10 and then had urine thrown at him by a spectator during Wednesday's time-trial to Mont-Saint-Michel.

He was happy to be making headlines for the right reasons again on stage 13.

MLB Standings

American League

East	W	L	Pct	GB
BOSTON	57	37	.606	—
TAMPA	53	40	.570	3.5
BALTIMORE	51	42	.548	5.5
YANKEES	50	42	.543	6.0
TORONTO	44	47	.484	11.5

East	W	L	Pct	GB
ATLANTA	53	39	.576	—
WASHINGTON	47	45	.511	6.0
PHILADELPHIA	46	47	.495	7.5
NY METS	40	48	.455	11.0
MIAMI	33	57	.367	19.0

Central	W	L	Pct	GB
DETROIT	50	41	.549	—
CLEVELAND	48	44	.522	2.5
KANSAS	43	46	.483	6.0
MINNESOTA	37	52	.416	12.0
CHICAGO	36	53	.404	13.0

Central	W	L	Pct	GB
ST. LOUIS	55	35	.611	—
PITTSBURGH	54	36	.600	1.0
CINCINNATI	51	41	.554	5.0
CHICAGO	41	49	.456	14.0
MILWAUKEE	37	54	.407	18.5

West	W	L	Pct	GB
OAKLAND	54	38	.587	—
TEXAS	53	39	.576	1.0
LA ANGELES	44	46	.489	9.0
SEATTLE	40	52	.435	14.0
HOUSTON	32	59	.352	21.5

West	W	L	Pct	GB
ARIZONA	48	44	.522	—
DODGERS	46	45	.505	1.5
COLORADO	44	49	.473	4.5
SAN FRANCISCO	41	50	.451	6.5
SAN DIEGO	41	52	.441	7.5

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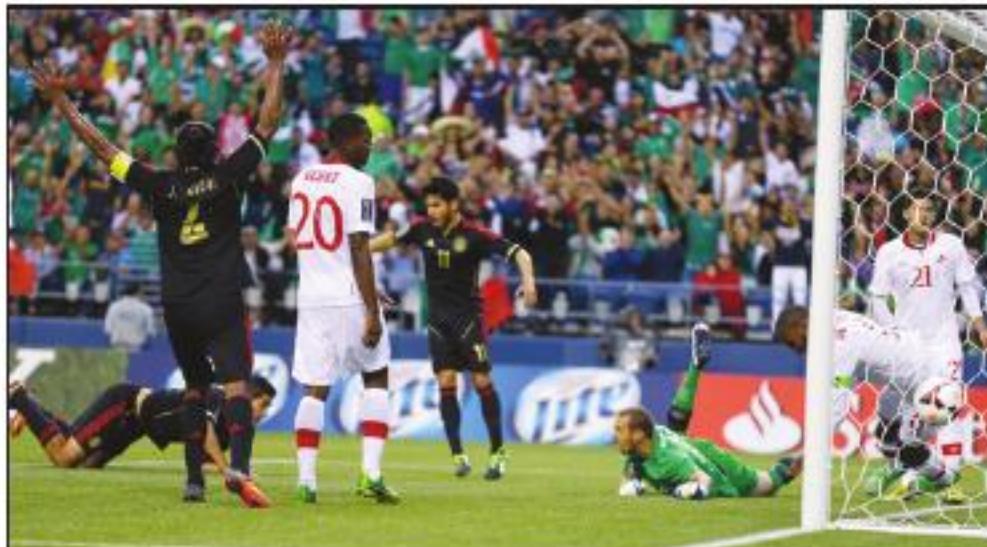
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CONCACAF: Mexico beat Canada to revive Gold Cup bid

SEATTLE (AFP) - Two-time defending champions Mexico got their CONCACAF Gold Cup campaign back on track Thursday with a 2-0 victory over Canada.

Raul Jimenez scored in the 41st minute and Marco Fabian converted a penalty in the 57th to give Mexico the much-needed Group A victory and their first three points in a tournament they have won a record six times.

Mexico brought the crowd of 28,345 to life shortly before halftime when Luis Montes's corner kick found Jorge Enriquez, who flicked the ball in front of the goal for Jimenez to blast a header into the net.



A ball headed by Mexico's Raul Jimenez, lower left, gets past Canada goalkeeper Milan Borjan, third from right, for a goal

Fabian doubled the lead in the second half with his shot from the spot after he was taken down in the penalty area going after a pass from Rafael Marquez, and Mexico now find themselves back in the hunt for a quarter-final berth.

In the first match of the Group A double-header, Panama defeated Martinique 1-0 with a penalty converted by Manuel Gabriel Torres in the 83rd minute.

The victory secured a quarter-final berth for Julio Cesar Dely Valdes's Panama, who had shocked Mexico 2-1 with two goals from Torres on the opening day of the tournament.

Canada, stunned in their opener by Martinique, remained in search of their first victory and in danger of missing out on a quarter-final berth.

The Gold Cup continues on Friday with Group B matches in Miami, where Trinidad and Tobago will take on Haiti and Honduras face El Salvador.

Today, the United States face Cuba and Costa Rica take on Belize in a Group C double-header at Sandy, Utah, near Salt Lake City.

The winners of the North and Central America and Caribbean regional football championship will battle the 2015 champions for a place in the 2017 Confederations Cup.

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LA LIBERTAD, El Salvador (AFP) - Conner Coffing from the USA rides a wave during an international surf tournament organized by the Association of Surfing Professionals at Punta Roca Beach in La Libertad, 35 Km south of San Salvador, on Friday.

Jeter's start of season cut short

NEW YORK - Derek Jeter is being shut down for the weekend and the Yankees are hoping his quad injury heals itself during the All-Star break.

Jeter has a Grade 1 quad strain and the Yankees won't rule out the possibility of the 39 year old going on the DL after the break.

General manager Brian Cashman made the announcement Friday afternoon before the Yankees were scheduled to face the Minnesota Twins at the Stadium.

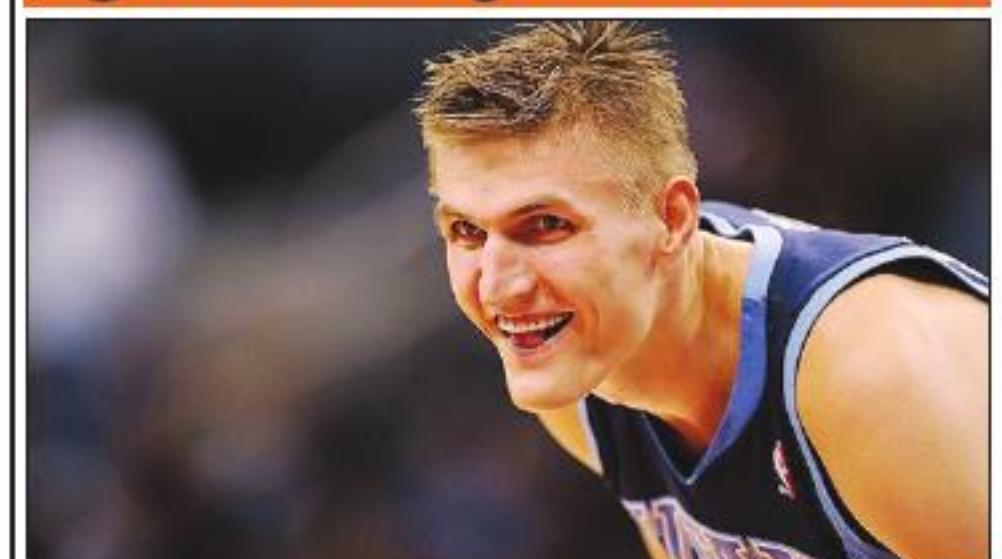
Jeter, who returned to the Yankees for the first time since breaking his ankle during Game 1 of the ALCS last October on Thursday, was forced to leave the game in the 8th inning with a quad strain. The Captain, who was brought



back from his Triple-A rehab stint a day earlier than originally planned, went 1-for-4 with an RBI as the Yankees beat the Royals, 8-4.

Jeter, a 13-time All-Star, played in 159 games last year, his most since 2005, and batted .316 with 15 homers and 58 runs batted in.

Andrei Kirilenko, Nets agree to 2yr contract



ORLANDO - Thursday night Nets general manager Billy King finalized his roster makeover with one more stunner of a transaction. Andrei Kirilenko is headed to Brooklyn. Kirilenko and the Nets have agreed to terms, according to a league source, filling the team's biggest remaining need at the only price they could offer. The 6-foot-10 small forward will join the Nets on a two-year deal starting at \$3.18 million, the most the capped-out Nets could spend on a free agent. The second year of Kirilenko's deal is a player option. Kirilenko turned down a \$10 million player option to play for Minnesota. That seemingly was a grave miscalculation of the market — Kirilenko will be giving up \$7 million to play in Brooklyn.

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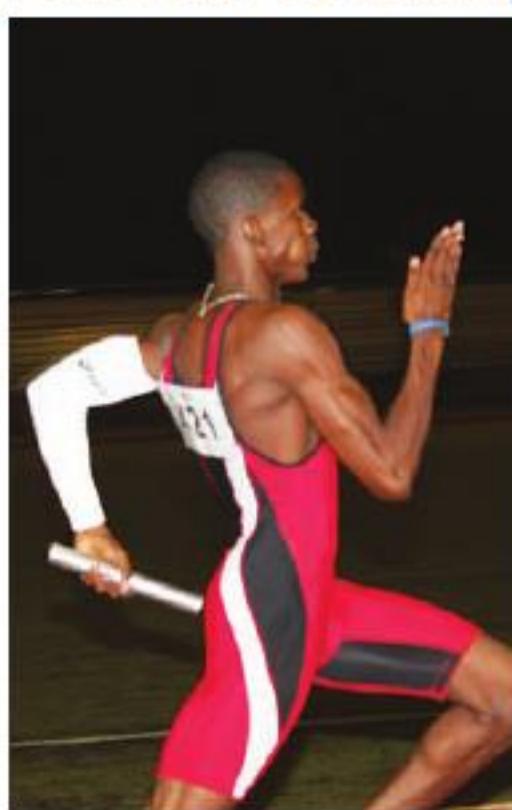
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Aruba's Track and Field prospect Quincy Breell to participate at the Dutch Championships



After an intensive preparation during various months finally the big day has arrived for Quincy Breell.

Quincy is a young athlete who has excelled in different athletic competitions locally as well as internationally. One of his dreams being qualifying and competing at the Dutch championship has come true.

Recently Quincy with training partner Shaquille Lourens accompanied by Coach Evelyn Farell embarked to motherland Holland to compete in the biggest athletics competition in The Netherlands.

Quincy is the national record holder 7.20m in the long jump.

A special thanks to the Commission of Subsidy who helped Quincy financially so he can participate in Holland.

The Commission of Subsidy and the Technical Commission do their utmost to help all athletes in different sports, this way pushing our local sports to a higher level. Aruba is proud of you Quincy and wishes you all the best!

Motorcycling: Lorenzo out of German GP after new crash

SACHSENRING (AFP) - Spain's Jorge Lorenzo has been ruled out of this weekend's German Grand Prix at Sachsenring after a fall during Friday's practice -- just two weeks after he fractured his collarbone.

The reigning world MotoGP champion, who needed surgery after breaking his left collarbone during practice for the Dutch GP two weeks ago, fell again on the second Sachsenring practice session, landing

on the damaged area.

According to race organisers, the titanium plate, fixed with eight screws that was fitted after the Assen crash, was bent, causing him intense pain, although the pins remained in place.

As a result, the decision was made to withdraw him from Sunday's race and Lorenzo flew home to Barcelona on Friday to undergo surgery on Saturday.

The incident came as Ger-

many's Stefan Bradl was quickest in the second session in front of his home crowd, clocking 1min 22.030sec, 0.017sec ahead of Lorenzo.

The Spaniard had recorded the quickest time of 1min 22.47sec on Friday morning.

The 26-year-old finished fifth in the Dutch GP on June 26 and earlier on Friday had revealed that he rode the Dutch GP against medical advice.

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